

STATE SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Summary – January 27, 2004

Recycling Rate – Gretchen Newman

Gretchen reported that the 2002 recycling numbers were finalized in November 2003. A press release was sent out. The recycling numbers were for municipal solid waste (residential and commercial waste) only.

Some of the products where recycling has gone down are: Glass, corrugated, mixed paper, aseptic packaging, tin cans & yard debris, plastics, rubber materials, rendering, food waste and textiles. Recycled wood (under Ecology's definition) is also down. Much of the reclaimed wood is being burned for energy recovery.

Products where recycling has gone up are: Computers, computer parts, fluorescent light bulbs, aluminum cans, gypsum, HDPE, PET & LDPE plastics, newspaper, high grade paper, photographic films and used oil. New reports from recyclers are reporting that recycling of ferrous and nonferrous metals are up. Also white goods and tires have gone up.

Unfortunately, landfilling and incineration is at an all-time high. In 2001 this amounted to 4,611,406 tons. In 2002 the tons went up to 4,703,879. This is an increase of 92,473 tons.

Diverted Materials: The biggest tonnages reported include asphalt, concrete, other construction & demolition materials, landclearing debris, fuels for energy recovery and wood for energy recovery.

Under WAC 173-350 there are new and improved recycling measures due to the conditional exemption for recycling facilities which carries an annual reporting requirement. Annual reports will be required for recycling facilities and also for intermediate solid waste handling facilities. The recycling survey will continue, as usual, for facilities that are not affected by the new annual reporting requirement.

Beyond Waste will also affect the recycling measures as they operate currently. There will be some improvement to existing measures such as recycling and disposal, as well as additions of new measures such as materials flow, market basket of goods, and recycled vs. virgin feedstocks in the manufacturing sector.

Beyond Waste Project Update & Timeline – Cheryl Smith

The draft Beyond Waste plan will be released soon, and a variety of options for public review and comment will be available. Cheryl asked SWAC if May 25 was good to hold a SWAC Beyond Waste Subcommittee meeting in the afternoon and a public meeting that same evening at the Ecology Building. SWAC members agreed. Public meetings will also be held in Spokane, Everett, and then Yakima, Wenatchee or Ellensburg. These meetings will be approximately 3 hours. Cheryl envisions having discussion stations at these meetings. Short presentations will be made at the meetings, followed by discussion and comments. **Cheryl's hoping that folks will look at the information before they attend any of these meetings.** SWAC members stressed the point that the word needs to get out about these public meetings.

Plan documents will be posted on the Beyond Waste Web site (www.ecy.wa.gov/beyondwaste) several weeks before these meetings.

Cheryl hopes to make a Beyond Waste presentation at the April SWANA meeting. Cullen, Cheryl, Chris Chapman and others are on the WSRA conference agenda. The Organics Initiative will be presented with Cascadia Consulting Group at the National Biocycle Conference in March. The MRW Initiative will be presented at the Northwest Hazardous Waste Conference in April. She hopes to also attend the WRRRA annual meeting.

ACTION ITEM: Jeff Kelley-Clarke requested a draft letter to be provided about the plans and the public meetings. The letter should be able to be personalized by local government and/or solid waste companies and then sent to generators in their areas. This will help publicize the project and might help increase attendance at the meetings.

Cheryl reported that we have received positive feedback from several organizations and individuals that have been consulted on draft recommendations for one or more of the 5 key Beyond Waste Initiatives (Green Building, Organics, Moderate-Risk Waste, Industrial, Performance Measurement).

Storm Debris/Snow Impacts – Jeff Kelley-Clarke

Jeff reported that the crazy weather we had in January was a nightmare for garbage collectors. It also created problems at the large landfills and with the rail transport system. Gene Eckhardt of the WUTC set up a meeting between haulers and local government, to be held following the SWAC meeting, to discuss what challenges were presented by the winter weather, and how they might be prevented next time. SWAC members were invited to stay for that discussion.

Contaminated Soils (Graving Dock) – Cullen Stephenson

Based on a dispute over proper soils management in Clallam County, the AGC and DOT have concerns with the soils portion of our new 173-350 Solid Waste Rule. They would like us to totally repeal two definitions. This is not legally possible. We have been working on a process with broad stakeholder involvement to look at gaining better consensus regarding soils management. The first meeting was held 12/18/03. We have now issued the promised intent and guidance language in early draft form. As you form your responses, Cullen asks that instead of just drafting new language for the rule, please tell us what you are trying to change. Another meeting has been set up for February 18th from 1:00-3:00 in the Olympia Ecology Building.

Mad Cow (BSE) – Cullen Stephenson

We've been working in cooperation with federal, state, and local governments to properly manage the wastes related to the single BSE cow discovered in Mabton. So far, we've developed guidance for disposal of carcasses and meat and blood meal (MBM). We suspect some legislative action in response to this situation. To date, coordination and cooperation have been excellent, despite the number of agencies involved. Cullen stressed our efforts to train federal agencies to work with local governments on this issue. Jeff suggested that we keep a good history on both contaminated soils and mad cow issues, as these are examples of how fair and flexible our Washington solid waste system can be.

Legislation/Roundtable

Bob Schille reported that there will be a NEPSI meeting in Portland in February. Also, Waste Management currently is contracting with two cities to haul their e-waste.

Craig Lorch (from Total Reclaim) stated that the shredder equipment for e-waste is up and running.

Steve Wamback (Pierce County) asked the group what impact e-waste has on landfills. The consensus was that this waste doesn't impact public health significantly. But the sustainability message is that recycling e-waste is the *right thing to do*.

Sally Toteff mentioned that small cities and counties may be under represented on the e-waste issues (at the legislature). They don't always have the finances to travel. Jeff Kelley-Clarke said he did include this concern in his testimony at the hearing.

Jeff Kelley-Clarke asked the SWAC members what their take was on the landfill ban regarding e-waste. SWAC members opposed the ban until a demonstrated practice is put in place. Everyone agreed that a solution needed to be found. The general consensus was that *a ban without product stewardship is not a good practice*.

ACTION ITEM: SWAC approved a motion for Jeff Kelley-Clarke to draft a letter on the inert waste bill (HB 2308). Jeff will circulate the draft letter to SWAC members for their input.

ACTION ITEM: During the discussion of HB 2488 (the E-waste producer responsibility bill), the SWAC authorized Jeff Kelley-Clarke to draft a letter to the Committee expressing various concerns and support for the bill.

Brad Lovaas (WRRRA) proposed that SWAC convene an advisory committee to help administer grants (as opposed to CTED).

Dean Large offered kudos to Cullen Stephenson and Pete Keller concerning their work on the mad cow issue.

Attendees:

Crosby, Tim – Waste Management	Luboff, Chris – Seattle Public Util.
Dean, Bill – Thurston Co.	Matsuyama, Jim - NETCHD
Dennis, Linda – Smedes & Assoc.	Newman, Gretchen–Ecology (Speaker)
Finch, Clif – Wash. Food Ind.	Probart, Ashley–Assoc. of WA Cities
Guttridge, Rob – Clark Co./SW Wash.	Reed, Bill – Westside Counties
Hewitt, Lorie - Ecology	Reynolds, Deb - UTC
Hlavka, Rick - WSRA	Schille, Bob – Waste Management
Keller, Pete - Rabanco	Smedes, Jerry – Smedes & Assoc.
Kelley-Clarke, Jeff – Snohomish Co	Smith, Cheryl – Ecology (Speaker)
Kirkpatrick, Vicki - WSAC	Snyder, Jody - LRI
Large, Dean – SW Washington	Stephenson, Cullen - Ecology
LeMay, Doug - LeMay, Inc.	Toteff, Sally – Thurston Co.
LeMay, Norm – LeMay, Inc.	Wamback, Steve – Pierce Co.
Lorch, Craig - WCRC	Westmoreland, Eddie - WCI
Lovass, Brad – WRRRA	Windsor, Scott – City/Spokane